The Graduate Student Network Presents
The Fourth Annual
Graduate Student Summit & Research Rendezvous

September 14 & 15, 2016
Montana State University
Bozeman, MT
SEPTMBER 14, 2016

6 pm - Kick-Off Event
“Whose Line Is It Anyway?” Discover Ways Improv Can Help You Teach, Network and Communicate Your Research

Procrastinator Theatre followed by food, cash bar and socializing in the Leigh Lounge

Join us for a night of Improv hosted by Counseling & Psychological Services (CPS), The Verge Theater Company, and the Graduate Student Network.

This year we’ve invited the Verge Theatre to bring its improvisation talent to Montana State University. This innovative session is facilitated by Dr. Brian Kassar, from CPS and a company member of the Verge. Joining Dr. Kassar are the Improvert troupe from the Verge, who will provide improv comedy about graduate student life based on your suggestions.

Some take-aways from the workshop will include helping students learn ways to talk about their research more spontaneously and directly, to pay attention to their listeners and to connect personally with their audience. Improv can help graduate students with teaching, defending their thesis/dissertation, networking, and simply explaining their research to people outside their fields.

SEPTMBER 15, 2016

9-10:30 am Simultaneous Sessions
A) Fellowship Writing - Room 233
This workshop will provide you with a small group discussion environment to speak with winners of the graduate fellowships and professors who have a history helping students find funding. This workshop will utilize a “flipped meeting” set up where participants move from table to table and speak with experts. This workshop will provide insight for writing a fellowship application to fund graduate research.

B) CV/Resume Writing - Room 235
This workshop is designed to offer information on writing top notch curriculum vitae for academic careers or resumes for non-academic careers. The workshop will be round-table style. Participants will have a chance to pick a topic to spend the entire time on, or can move from table to table. From getting started to cleaning up a final product, faculty from around campus will be there to help.

11 am -12:30 pm Simultaneous Sessions
A) Preparing a Conference Talk - Room 233
Preparing for a conference talk can be a stressful and exciting endeavor. This workshop will give you helpful hints on where to start with your presentation, the use of technology and bolstering your career through a conference talk. Gain insights from fellow graduate students as well as faculty and staff from around campus. The workshop will be round-table style so participants will have a chance to pick a topic to spend the entire time on, or can move from table to table. Table topics include:

Maximizing your presentation to boost your career: International meetings in your field of study can be a great opportunity for networking and gaining knowledge into future career paths. Had you thought about the impression an engaging conference talk can have on future supervisors or postdoc advisors?
**Graduate student perspective:** Hear from peers who have been there! Senior graduate students with conference presentation experience will give their perspective on things that went well and what they wish they would have known beforehand!

**Using technology to your benefit:** Technology can be a great tool to utilize for presenting your research clearly. This table involves more than just PowerPoint tips, but advice on how to effectively give a conference talk using the technological options we have today.

**Presentation and delivery skills:** Have you ever dozed off during a terribly boring lecture? Avoid this happening within your audience by engaging them in your research. This table will coach attendees on appropriate presentation skills and tips to make your talk shine above the rest.

B) **Interview Skills - Room 235**
A job interview is a chance to “sell” yourself to a prospective employer. You’ll need to be able to show how your graduate school experience has given you skills applicable to the job and will allow you to contribute to the success of the organization, company or institution. Whether you’re pursuing an academic or non-academic career, we’ll discuss how to prepare for an interview, the different types of interviews, how to prepare for presentations during interviews, and effective follow-up.

1-3 pm **Research Rendezvous & Poster session (SUB Ballroom A)**
This competition provides graduate students an opportunity to present a research poster (existing or new). Awards will be given to the first and second place winners in each category as determined by a panel of judges.

3:30-5:00 **Career Pathways Panel (SUB 233 & 235)**
Panelists will offer insights on how to prepare for a successful career in the private/non-profit sector or in academia. Come prepared to engage with early and senior career specialists, administrators, and scholars in a dialogue about their career pathways. Individuals with advanced degrees from MSU and other institutions will discuss their career trajectory and give insight on how they got from graduate school to where they are today. They’ll share their personal journey from the successes and highpoints to the false-starts, stumbling blocks, and detours.
SESSION LEADERS & PANELISTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Kick Off Event

Dr. Brian Kassar is a licensed psychologist at MSU’s Counseling and Psychological Services (CPS) specializing in college student development, prevention, and education. His areas of counseling expertise are depression, anxiety, phase of life issues, and men's development. Brian has been at CPS in 2000. In his spare time, he is a company member of the Verge Theater where he has performed improv comedy, taught classes, and performed in productions of The Rocky Horror Show, Avenue Q, Young Frankenstein, and the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.

Verge Theater creates offbeat, thought-provoking theater that is masterful in its execution. Their improv classes provide a solid foundation in the principles of acceptance, listening, and creative collaboration. They are designed for all levels and help build confidence in public speaking, thinking on your toes, and having fun on stage in a supportive environment. Visit http://vergetheater.com/ to find out more.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Writing Fellowship Proposals

Dr. Angela Des Jardins, a solar physicist by training, is the Director of the Montana Space Grant Consortium (MSGC) and Montana NASA EPSCoR, and is an Assistant Research Professor of Physics at Montana State University. Montana Space Grant and NASA EPSCoR are programs that work to strengthen education and research in Montana in fields related to aerospace science and engineering. Angela is proud to be a third generation Bozemanite who was able to follow her dreams of working for NASA while staying in Montana. Angela's professional mission is to use the ability of space to ignite the human sense of wonder.

Kristen Emmett is a 3rd year PhD student in Ecology at Montana State University and a NSF Graduate Research Fellow. Her research interests include climate impact modeling, biogeography, citizen science, and science communication. Her current research focuses on modeling fire, climate, and vegetation interactions in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem to predict future impacts of climate change. Kristen received her BS from the University of Oregon in Environmental Science.

Dr. Shelly Hogan was a National Science Foundation (NSF) Integrated Graduate Education and Research Training doctoral Fellow at Virginia Tech (Blacksburg, VA). Currently she is the Director of the federally funded (Department of Education) TRiO Ronald E. McNair Post baccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair Scholars Program) (www.montana.edu/mcnaier). The mission of the McNair Scholar’s program is to serve the needs of first generation/low income and underrepresented ethnic/racial minority students in their pursuit of attaining bachelor degrees and ultimately earning doctoral degrees.

Sarah Mailhoit is a Ph.D. candidate in the department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering. She was awarded an NSF East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes fellowship in 2016.
Lindsay Melody is a fourth year Ph. D. candidate in Dr. Eric Boyd's geobiology lab in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, and recently the recipient of a NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship. I study the distributions and activities of extremophile microorganisms, with the goal of further characterizing the physiological adaptations that facilitate life under extreme conditions. My primary thesis project is directed at understanding the influence that geological hydrogen has on (hyper) thermophilic organisms in Yellowstone National Park, and also work on several other projects focused on the microbialites and associated microorganisms of Great Salt Lake, Utah.

Micaela Young earned an advanced degree in English at Montana State University and is now a PhD candidate in the American Studies Department focusing on governance of rivers and the socioeconomic and cultural impacts of water infrastructure in the Upper Missouri River Basin in Montana. After her Master's Degree, Ms. Young went on to work in the private sector as a consultant and project manager on large state and federal grant-funded projects focused on energy use and energy education. In her career as project manager, she provided training and technical assistance to agencies and technical and community colleges related to project management, grant writing and grant management, and technical training development. From 2010 to 2013, she was responsible for securing over two million dollars in government funding. From January 2013 to June 2014 she served in the position of Grant Submission Training Coordinator for ADVANCE Project TRACS, a 3.5 million dollar institutional transformation grant funded by the National Science Foundation. The Office of Sponsored Programs, a sub-office of the Vice President for Research recruited her in June 2014 to work with the MSU faculty and student community on pre-award activities such as grant proposal development and collaboration with other researchers. Ms. Young has been instrumental in the development and submission of over 300 grant proposals to various federal, state, and private organizations.

CV/Resume writing

Ryan Anderson is an assistant professor in the department of Chemical and Biological Engineering.
Laura Black is an associate professor of Management.
Doug Downs is an associate professor of English
Kathi Irvine is a USGS Statistician at Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center.
Susy Kohout is an assistant professor in the department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience.
Michelle Miley is an assistant professor of English and the director of the MSU Writing Center.

Sweeney Windchief is a member of the Fort Peck Tribes (Assiniboine) in Montana and serves as an Assistant Professor of Adult and Higher Education at Montana State University. His research interests fall under the umbrella of Indigenous intellectualism to include Indigenous methodologies in research, tribal college leadership, Indigenous student persistence in higher education, and he is currently a Co-PI on an NSF sponsored AGEP-T Grant entitled: Pacific Northwest Collaborative Opportunities For Success in Mentoring Of Students (PNW-COSMOS). Among others, his teaching privileges include Critical Race Theory, Indigenous Methodologies in Research, Law and Policy in Higher Education and Institutional Research. His outreach and community engagement activities include serving on the College Horizons advisory committee, the American Indian and Minority Achievement Council (AIMA) for the Montana Office of the Commissioner on Higher Education, MSU’s American Indian Student Center Executive Committee, and he Coaches at a local wrestling club in Bozeman. He and his wife Sara have two sons who help keep things in perspective.
Preparing a Conference Talk

Rebecca Booker completed her Ph.D. in Psychology at The Pennsylvania State University in 2011. She was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison before coming to Montana State University in 2013. Her primary areas of research focus on the intersection of biological and behavioral mechanisms that underlie the socioemotional development of children. Dr. Brooker has been a presenter and/or chair for a number of conference talks and invited addresses at local, state, national, and international conferences.

Laura Brutscher is a Ph.D. candidate in the Microbiology and Immunology department. She is co-mentored by Dr. Michelle Flenniken from the Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology department and Dr. Carl Yeoman from Animal and Range Sciences department. Laura’s thesis work is focused on investigating host-pathogen interactions of the honey bee. She is interested in identifying what genes (transcriptome) may be important for antiviral defense in honey bees. Laura has had the opportunity to present her work at several conferences, most recently including the 2016 International Conference on Pollinator Biology, Health and Policy at Penn State, the 2016 American Bee research conference in Ponte Vedra, Florida, and the 2015 American Society Virologists conference in London, Ontario. Laura was awarded first place in the student presentation competition for her presentation at the 2016 American Bee research conference.

Valérie Copié is a chemistry and biochemistry professor and the director of MSU’s Nuclear Magnetic Resonance center.

Fermin Guerra - Fermin is a 4th year graduate student in the laboratory of Dr. Jovanka Voyich in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology. His research focuses on understanding the mechanisms used by Staphylococcus aureus to evade and modulate the host immune response leading to staphylococcal pathogenicity. During his time at MSU, Fermin has attended multiple conferences including:
- 2013 Western Regional IDeA Scientific Conference, received 1st place poster award
- 2015 Gordon Research Conference on Staphylococcal Diseases, travel award and selected oral presentation
- 2015 Society for Leukocyte Biology, travel award and oral presentation
- 2015 Northwest ASM Annual Meeting, invited speaker

Catherine Johnson is a PhD candidate in the Adult & Higher Education program at Montana State University. She specializes in graduate student socialization with a focus on graduate students in STEM. She is a graduate research assistant for the Pacific Northwest Circle of Success: Mentoring Opportunities in STEM (PNW-COSMOS) is an Alliance funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation’s Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate – Transformation (AGEP-T) program.
Vaughn Judge joined MSU in 2009 as Director of the School of Art after eight years of being the Head of the internationally acclaimed School of Fine Art Photography at Glasgow School of Art in the UK. In 2013, he became one of the first Fellows of the National Arts Strategy: Chief Executive Program; an initiative designed to address the intractable problems of finance and relevancy in the nonprofit cultural sector. With a background in educational research and several research projects that address learner centered education and social influence, his latest research focuses on “Self and Group Identity”: Theories for developing strategies to improve acquisition of knowledge. His interests lie in communication, often of complex ideas, so data visualization, narrative imagery, infographics, verbalization, and image text relationships have become a focus of his research.

Greg Notess - Greg R. Notess is the Faculty and Graduate Services Librarian here at MSU. In addition to teaching EndNote and other graduate level workshops and a course on literature reviews for Liberal Studies, he is an internationally-known conference speaker on search engines and other Internet research topics. He has presented at conferences including Internet Librarian, Online Information, Web Search University, the Special Libraries Association Annual Conference, and international meetings in India, New Zealand, London, Tel Aviv, Oslo, Stockholm, Paris, Pretoria, Montreal, Copenhagen, Sydney, and Zagreb.

Marie O’Neill Conrad - Maire O’Neill Conrad is a licensed architect and has taught at the School of Architecture at MSU since 1990. Her undergraduate and graduate degrees are from University of California at Berkeley, with a doctorate in higher education at MSU. Her research focus is on historic agricultural building development in the Rocky Mountain West. The award winning documentation work of her graduate students is housed at the Library of Congress in the Historic American Buildings Survey collection.

Jennifer Woodcock-Medicine Horse holds a BA in Anthropology from the University of California, Berkeley, an MA in Native American Studies from Montana State University-Bozeman and is currently a PhD Candidate in American Studies at Montana State University-Bozeman. Following her 2015 Smithsonian Research Fellowship at the National Museum of the American Indian, Jennifer is completing a dissertation titled “Green Museums Waking up the World: Indigenous and Mainstream Approaches to Exploring Sustainability”.
Interview Skills

**Virginia K. Bratton** is an Associate Professor of Management in the Jake Jabs College of Business and Entrepreneurship at Montana State University in Bozeman, MT. Dr. Bratton teaches undergraduate courses in organizational behavior, human resource management, and leadership. Her research focus is on business ethics, pay equity, and performance appraisals and she has published in the Journal of Organizational Behavior, Journal of Vocational Behavior, Ethics and Behavior, and Leadership and Organization Development Journal. Dr. Bratton has designed and delivered workshops to business practitioners, faculty, staff, and administrators on a variety of HR topics including topics such as business ethics, conflict management, and stress reduction.

**Steve Enoch** - Steve is a Career Coach at MSU’s Office of Career Services. He joined Career Services after retiring as superintendent of schools for 18 years, having served both small rural districts and large urban districts. Steve started his career as an elementary teacher, later serving as principal at elementary, middle and high school levels before becoming superintendent. He has also taught educational leadership courses at the graduate school level and has been published nationally on several occasions. He earned a B.A. degree from the University of La Verne, a Master’s degree from California State University, Fullerton, and has done additional advanced study at Claremont Graduate School. In his "semi-retired" life he enjoys doing professional writing, hiking and biking, travel with his wife, and activities with children and grandchildren.

**Kayte Kaminski** has worn a variety of hats at several institutions, both in academic and student affairs, working for 9 years in residence life, teaching first-year seminars and online courses on the brain and art and music, working as a conduct officer, and managing academic programs. Kayte earned her Bachelor’s degree in French and a minor in Music from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, a Master’s in Counseling Psychology from Ball State University, and is currently a doctoral candidate at Montana State University in the Adult and Higher Education Administration program.

**Career Pathways Panel**

**Roberta Amendola** earned an MS in Chemical Engineering and a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Technologies from the University of Genoa (Italy), in 2006 and 2010 respectively. She is currently an Assistant Professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department. She is the current instructor for EMEC 250 Mechanical Engineering materials, EMAT252 Material Structures and properties laboratory and EMAT 461 Principles of Tribology. Dr. Amendola’s research focuses on both fundamental and applied research into materials degradation and durability in extreme environments for energy, power, and propulsion. Current research interests include oxidation and corrosion of metallic alloys, high temperature protective coating development and high temperature corrosive gases and water vapor interactions with metals and ceramics. Dr. Amendola is also actively involved in supporting undergraduate research opportunities through the Undergraduate Scholar Program at MSU.

**Matthew R. Caires** earned a bachelor of arts in History and Political Science from Washington State University. During his time as an undergraduate, Matt was active in his fraternity (Sigma Nu), student government, and the honors program. He was elected at age 20 to serve on the Pullman City Council. He also served as student body president and as assistant mayor pro-tempore as an undergraduate.
Matt has also earned a master’s degree in higher education administration and student affairs from the University of Vermont and a doctorate in higher education /adult education from the University of Wyoming.

Matt currently serves as Dean of Students at the Montana State University, where he provides oversight and support for a variety of programs including Student Conduct, Fraternity & Sorority Life, Parent & Family Relations, Recreational Sports & Fitness, Student Activities & Engagement, Diversity Awareness, and the MSU Women’s Center. As Dean of Students, Matt serves as MSU’s lead administrative liaison to ASMSU and is the primary student advocate on campus.

Matt has served on the Board of Directors for HAVEN, a Bozeman non-profit that works to reduce domestic and sexual violence. Matt also served a three-year term as the Vice-Chair of the Albany County SAFE Project Board of Directors in Laramie, Wyoming. Matt has a passion for reducing sexual assault and other forms of violence, especially in the context of higher education. He is an avid mountain biker and backcountry skier.

Douglas J. Craig is currently retired after more than 40 years in both private consulting and public service. Mr. Craig was born and raised in Livingston, MT and now resides in Bozeman. He received bachelor and master’s degrees in civil/environmental engineering from MSU in 1976 and 1978. He is a registered Professional Engineer and a Grade V (highest) certified Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator in California.

Mr. Craig operated wastewater treatment plants in Yellowstone National Park for six seasons while earning his degrees at MSU. After graduating, he worked for the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, the Parsons Corporation, Central Contra Costa Sanitary District (CCCSD; Martinez, CA), Montgomery Watson Harza Global (MWH), and as a private consultant. While at CCCSD, he was Project Manager for the design of projects totaling $150 million in construction costs. He progressed to Planning Division Manager, Operations and Maintenance Division Manager and finally to Director of Operations. CCCSD treats and recycles wastewater for 800,000 people in the San Francisco Bay Area and has been recognized by the EPA for its excellence in environmental stewardship and permit compliance. At MWH Mr. Craig served as Client Services Manager and Wastewater Discipline Leader for Northern California.

Mr. Craig has published papers on pump station design, ultraviolet disinfection, continuous improvement in public utilities, and the impacts of selenium on the San Francisco Bay. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Clean Water Agencies and the Aquatic Science Center which prioritizes and allocates funding for Bay Area Water Quality initiatives.

Brian Kassar is a psychologist specializing in college student development, prevention, and education. His areas of counseling expertise are depression, anxiety, phase of life issues, and men’s development. Brian has been at CPS since 2000. In his spare time, he is a company member of the Verge Theater where he has performed improv comedy, taught classes, and performed in productions of The Rocky Horror Show, Avenue Q, Young Frankenstein, and the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.
Theo Lipfert is a filmmaker who is exploring the intersection between visual media and sound, and director of MSU’s School of Film & Photography. He earned an MFA in Painting at Hunter College in New York City and exhibited paintings and prints in North America and Germany before devoting his creative energies to film, video, sound, and teaching. His documentary, narrative, and experimental films have been shown widely at film festivals and broadcast on television. Lipfert was a Fulbright scholar on the African island nation of Mauritius during the 2011-12 academic year where he taught digital media production to undergraduate students. There he completed principal photography on the documentary film entitled “Invasion of the Giant Tortoises” about efforts to introduce non-native tortoises to the Mauritian ecosystem. He is currently directing a 360 degree planetarium film in collaboration with the Extreme Gravity Institute at MSU about the discovery of gravitational waves. That project is entitled "Einstein's Gravity Playlist" and will premiere at the Museum of the Rockies Taylor Planetarium.

Sarah Olson joined the Wildlife Conservation Society in 2011 and is currently the Associate Director of Wildlife Epidemiology for the Wildlife Health Program. She received a joint Ph.D. in Population Health and Environment & Resources from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and studied how deforestation and climate affect malaria incidence in the Amazon. With WCS her portfolio has expanded to include research on the wildlife trade, white-nose syndrome risk to western bats, avian influenza, Ebola and great ape health, digital disease detection, and surveillance techniques for free-ranging wildlife. Her broad research interest focuses on the intersection of wildlife, human, and environmental health.

John Sacklin grew up in western Washington, studied Forestry and Outdoor Recreation at the University of Washington and worked at the National Park Service’s Denver Service Center for two years before moving to Redwood National Park in northern California. During his 13 years at Redwood, he was involved in park planning and resources management. John met his wife Mary Hektner, who is a plant ecologist, at Redwood, and their children, Jennifer and JD, were born in California. Mid-career, he obtained an MBA from Humboldt State University in Arcata, California. In 1992, they moved to Yellowstone National Park where John’s work was primarily in park planning with a focus on long-term visitor use and management issues. During John’s years at Yellowstone, he also worked with The Nature Conservancy in China helping plan for future national parks in northwestern Yunnan Province, and he hosted numerous international groups learning about park management from the world’s first national park. These connections encouraged John and Mary to think about international work as they approached retirement in 2011. They joined the Peace Corps in 2012 and spent 27 months in Mexico. They volunteered at Parque Nacional Volcán Nevado de Colima in the State of Jalisco, and John worked in interpretation, helping the park director help people in the communities near the park better understand, appreciate, and protect their park. In current volunteer activities, John and Mary are Deacons in their church, he helps coach speech and debate at Gardiner High School, and John is the court program adviser for the Montana Youth and Government program in Helena.